

Preliminary Amendment
1.53(b) Continuation of 10/062,437

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence:

This is a continuation of Application No. 10/062,437 filed February 5, 2002; the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

Please delete the present Abstract of the Disclosure and replace it with the following amended Abstract of the Disclosure.

~~The present invention provides a~~ A polarizing plate ~~comprising which has~~ a polarizing layer having a thickness of about 20 nm to about 1500 nm formed by rubbing at least one surface of a substrate, coating the rubbed surface of the substrate with an aqueous solution containing a dye having a tabular molecular shape, and drying the solution. This polarizing plate is a thinner polarizing plate with a high degree of polarization and suitably applicable to portable electronic equipment such as cellular phones, portable information terminals, smart cards and IC cards.